



September, 2008

Dear Past, Present, and Prospective Partners:

On behalf of Governor Deval Patrick and Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs Ian Bowles, I am pleased to announce the availability of \$1.5 million for DCR's Partnerships Matching Funds Program to support the parks, open spaces, and facilities managed by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR).



DCR oversees and protects 450,000 acres of public lands, including state parks and recreation areas, beaches, forests, historic sites, and parkways. The Partnerships Matching Funds Program enables us to strengthen our relationships with DCR Friends groups, civic and community organizations, institutions, businesses and individuals. We are also able to invest in DCR resources and enhance our visitors' overall experience.

I am proud to be able to build upon a history that has seen a combined investment by the Commonwealth and public and private partners in our state's environmental and recreational resources of more than \$7 million since 2004. Last year alone, DCR supported a record number of 38 projects. Building on the 2008 success, DCR is excited to offer a 2:1 match on contributions of up to and including \$25,000. This feature increased the number of applications received and improved the quality and scope of our projects.

Enclosed you will find a Schedule for Funding, an Application, and Answers to Frequently Asked Questions that address the application process, evaluation criteria, and aspects of project management. Additionally, information about the program, including projects funded in the past, can be found at [www.mass.gov/dcr](http://www.mass.gov/dcr) or obtained by contacting [Ethel.Stafford@state.ma.us](mailto:Ethel.Stafford@state.ma.us) at 617-626-4917.

Your support is essential to ensuring DCR's success. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to DCR.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard K. Sullivan, Jr." It is a cursive script with distinct loops and strokes.

Richard K. Sullivan, Jr.  
Commissioner